

PRY; SAMUEL HOUSE  
(Hitt House)  
Keedysville Road  
Sharpsburg Vicinity  
Washington County  
Maryland

HABS NO. MD-958

HABS  
MD  
22 SHARPS,  
21-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

PRY, SAMUEL, HOUSE (Hitt House) HABS NO. MD-958

HABS  
MD.  
22-SHARP.V.  
21-

Location: Keedysville Rd., south of Upper Bridge, Sharpsburg  
Vicinity, Washington County, Maryland

Significance: This house is significant for its log construction,  
and its association with the nearby Civil War  
Battle of Antietam.

Description: The Pry house is a two-story, six-bay, rectangular-  
shaped log dwelling sheathed with modern siding  
over weatherboarding. It is situated on sloping  
ground along the south side of the Keedysville-  
Bakersville Road. The dwelling rests on limestone  
foundations which come nearly a full story in  
height at the south elevation. Stone piers  
perpendicular to the foundation walls support a  
one-story porch extending along the entire south  
elevation. The dwelling is a two-part structure  
divided by an interior wall of log construction.  
Windows have narrow frames which hold six-over-six-  
light sashes. Entrances are located in the second  
and fifth bays from the west end of the house at  
both the north and south elevations. Original  
doors are hung below three-light transoms. The  
side-gabled roof is covered with modern shingles.  
A brick chimney protrudes from the interior of the  
house at the juncture of the two sections.

History: It is clear that this house was built in two  
sections. The interior woodwork of the western  
portion indicates that it was built during the  
second quarter of the nineteenth century.  
Likewise, the eastern portion is of a type  
associated with the later nineteenth century. The  
house was originally owned by Robert Smith who,  
upon his death, deeded it to Samuel Hitt.  
Presumably it was Hitt who established the original  
mill, now known as Pry's mill. The property was  
purchased by Samuel and Philip Pry in 1847. The  
mill property remained in the Pry family until  
1941.

The Pry family house was used as a hospital for  
federal troops during and after the Civil War  
Battle of Antietam. According to local legend,  
women of the Pry family baked bread for the wounded  
soldiers.

Sources: Hitt's Mill and Houses, National Register of  
Historic Places nomination form, 1981

Historian: Martha Wagner, HABS, 1991